

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 3, 2005

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 14, 2005

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1032

Introduced by Assembly Member Jones
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chan, Coto, Dymally, Mullin, and Wolk)

February 22, 2005

An act to amend Section 8203 of, and to add Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 8238) to Chapter 2 of Part 6 of, the Education Code, relating to child care, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1032, as amended, Jones. Child care: preschool teachers: professional learning: instructional support grants.

Existing law, known as the Child Care and Development Services Act, provides for a system of child care and development services for children from infancy to 13 years of age by public and private child care providers.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop standards for the implementation of quality child care and development programs, including that staff possess the appropriate and required qualifications or experience, or both.

This bill would require the Superintendent to develop preschool learning standards for the implementation of quality child care and

development programs, and would include within those standards professional learning for preschool classroom staff.

Existing law requires the Superintendent to administer all state preschool programs, as specified.

This bill would authorize state funded preschool, child care and development, and family literacy programs serving preschool age children, *upon the adoption of specified preschool learning standards*, to apply to the State Department of Education for instructional support grants to provide ~~a certain number of hours of training on the reading/language arts standards and the mathematics standards~~ for classroom teachers and aides *on preschool learning standards*. The bill would require the training to be provided by certain providers approved by the Superintendent and would require the Superintendent to approve the content of the training. The bill would specify the manner in which the amount of a grant is to be determined. The bill would require the Superintendent to evaluate the program under which a grant is provided, and report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by July 1, 2009. The bill would appropriate \$4,500,000 from federal funds to the Superintendent for purposes of providing instructional support grants.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 8203 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 8203. The Superintendent shall develop preschool learning
- 4 standards for the implementation of quality programs. Indicators
- 5 of quality shall include all of the following:
- 6 (a) A physical environment that is safe and appropriate to the
- 7 ages of the children and that meets applicable licensing
- 8 standards.
- 9 (b) Program activities and services that are age appropriate
- 10 and meet the developmental needs of each child.
- 11 (c) Program activities and services that meet the cultural and
- 12 linguistic needs of children and families.
- 13 (d) Family and community involvement.
- 14 (e) Parent education.
- 15 (f) Efficient and effective local program administration.

(g) (1) Staff that possesses the appropriate and required qualifications or experience, or both. The appropriate staff qualifications shall reflect the diverse linguistic and cultural makeup of the children and families in the child care and development program. The use of intergenerational staff shall be encouraged.

(2) Professional learning for classroom staff.

(h) Program activities and services that meet the needs of children with exceptional needs and their families.

(i) Support services for children, families, and providers of care.

(j) Resource and referral services.

(k) Alternative payment services.

(l) Provision for nutritional needs of children.

(m) Social services that include identification of child and family needs and referral to appropriate agencies.

(n) Health services that include referral of children to appropriate agencies for services.

SEC. 2. Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 8238) is added to Chapter 2 of Part 6 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 7.5. Preschool Teacher Instructional Support Grant
Program

8238. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that a high-quality preschool experience is essential to prepare young children to meet the high expectations of California's public elementary schools and to close the achievement gap. The Legislature further finds that long-term and recent research clearly indicate that improving learning by young children is a function of increasing the skill of classroom instructional staff. There is an emerging consensus in California among legislators, educators, researchers, and the public that a key to boosting achievement by young children is to ensure that committed, highly skilled classroom teachers and aides are in every classroom.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide professional learning opportunities for preschool classroom teachers and aides on the prekindergarten reading/language arts and mathematics learning standards adopted by the Superintendent. The

1 Legislature recognizes that in addition to developing a
2 foundation in the areas of early literacy and early numeracy,
3 children also should be developing the social, emotional,
4 cognitive, and physical skills that they need to be successful in
5 school.

6 8238.1. For purposes of this article, the following definitions
7 apply:

8 (a) “Classroom aide” means a person who is employed on
9 either a full-time or part-time basis for the purpose of directly
10 assisting in classroom instruction in a state-funded preschool,
11 child care and development program, or family literacy program
12 serving preschool age children.

13 (b) “Teacher” means a person who holds a valid child
14 development permit or other acceptable teaching credential
15 issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing and is
16 employed on either a full-time or part-time basis in a state funded
17 preschool, child care and development program, or family
18 literacy program serving preschool age children.

19 (c) “Agency” means a school district, county office of
20 education, or other public or private entity under contract with or
21 receiving a grant from, the department for the provision of
22 preschool, child care and development, or family literacy
23 services to preschool-age children.

24 (d) “Reading and language arts” includes, but is not limited
25 to, vocabulary development, alphabets, word recognition, and
26 print recognition.

27 (e) “Mathematics” includes, but is not limited to, number
28 sense, classification, and measurement.

29 (f) “History and social science” includes, but is not limited to,
30 citizenship, national symbols, social development, and emotional
31 development.

32 (g) “Science” includes, but is not limited to, physical, life, and
33 earth sciences.

34 8238.2. (a) ~~State—(1) Upon the adoption of preschool~~
35 ~~learning standards pursuant to Section 8203, state-funded~~
36 ~~preschool, child care and development, and family literacy~~
37 ~~programs serving preschool age children may apply to the~~
38 ~~department for instructional support grants to provide 20 hours of~~
39 ~~training on the reading/language arts learning standards and 20~~
40 ~~hours of training on the mathematics learning standards for~~

1 ~~classroom teachers and aides. In addition, up to 40 hours of~~
2 ~~followup support training shall be provided as needed on both the~~
3 ~~reading/language arts and mathematics learning standards. At~~
4 ~~least 10 hours of the grants to provide training for teachers and~~
5 ~~classroom aides on those preschool learning standards that~~
6 ~~include, but are not limited to, reading and language arts,~~
7 ~~mathematics, history and social science, and science.~~

8 (2) *In addition, followup support training shall be provided,*
9 *upon the request of an agency, on reading and language arts,*
10 *mathematics, history and social science, and science. The*
11 ~~followup support training shall be focused on~~ *include* proactive
12 approaches to addressing the special needs of English learners in
13 preparing them to enter kindergarten ready to acquire English
14 and the special needs of children with exceptional needs. ~~The~~

15 (3) *The training shall be provided through agencies approved*
16 *by the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall also approve the*
17 *content of the training.*

18 (b) The grants awarded pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be
19 based on the number of classroom teachers and classroom aides
20 receiving the training. The Superintendent shall set the amount
21 per teacher and the amount per aide based upon the requirements
22 of the training and the amount of funds appropriated for purposes
23 of this article.

24 8238.3. The Superintendent shall conduct an evaluation of the
25 Preschool Teacher Instructional Support Grant Program and
26 report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by
27 July 1, 2009. The report shall include all of the following:

28 (a) The number of teachers who received training pursuant to
29 this article, itemized by type of permit or credential held.

30 (b) The number of classroom aides who directly assist with
31 early childhood classroom instruction ~~in reading/language arts or~~
32 ~~mathematics~~ who received training pursuant to this article.

33 (c) The identity of the entities that received funds for the
34 purpose of offering training pursuant to this article, and the
35 number of teachers and classroom aides, who directly assist with
36 classroom instruction ~~in reading/language arts and mathematics,~~
37 that each entity has trained.

38 (d) Information detailing the effectiveness of the program
39 established pursuant to this article. The information shall, at a
40 minimum, incorporate survey data concerning program

1 effectiveness that has been gathered from program participants
2 and program directors.

3 (e) To the extent available, information detailing the retention
4 rate of teachers who received training pursuant to this article,
5 itemized by type of permit or credential held. The information
6 shall, at a minimum, incorporate sample data regarding teachers
7 who are no longer in the profession.

8 (f) To the extent available, information detailing the retention
9 rate of classroom aides who directly assist with classroom
10 ~~instruction in reading/language arts and mathematics~~ who
11 received training pursuant to this article.

12 SEC. 3. The sum of four million five hundred thousand
13 dollars (\$4,500,000) is hereby appropriated from federal funds to
14 the Superintendent of Public Instruction for purposes of
15 providing instructional support grants pursuant to Article 7.5
16 (commencing with Section 8238) of Chapter 2 of Part 6 of the
17 Education Code.